



**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No. CYM-025

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De-Amat  
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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Ostgaard et al.  
 SERIAL NO.: 09/156,952 GROUP NO.: 1743  
 FILING DATE: 18-Sep-98 EXAMINER: Patricia K. Bex  
 TITLE: *Sample Vial for Use in Preparing Cytological Specimen*

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 Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In response to the Advisory Action, Paper No. 17, mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on May 24, 2001, and in view of the Final Office Action mailed from the USPTO on March 20, 2001, for which the period of response is set to expire on June 20, 2001, Applicants submit the enclosed Continued Prosecution Application Request and this Preliminary Amendment. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment after entry of the unentered Amendment previously filed on May 15, 2001, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 in the prior non-provisional application.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows, without prejudice. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, attached to the end of this Amendment is a marked up version of the amended items showing all changes relative to the previous version filed on May 15, 2001.

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